

BROADCAST-Grateful family warns tiny batteries pose big risk

Anchor Intro: It's the time of the year when lots of us will be receiving or giving battery-powered gifts but one Central Illinois family has a warning about making sure you keep tiny lithium batteries away from kids.

RADIO WRAP OR V/O :35 STANDARD OC

"She was struggling with something that was stuck in her esophagus and starting to show signs of discomfort and pain."

Joseph Mumbu's 5-year-old daughter Liana swallowed a lithium battery he was preparing to put in a key fob.

SOT JOSEPH MUMBU :1 0 oc: ... AND PAIN."

"She was struggling with something that was stuck in her esophagus and starting to show signs of discomfort and pain."

Dr. Daniel Robertson of OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois operated on Liana and she has no permanent damage. But he says saliva can cause an electrical current and can burn the esophagus within two hours. Without quick removal, in some circumstances the damage is so great, he says, a child can't recover.

ANCHOR TAG: The National Safety Council says each year more than 3,500 people swallow lithium batteries. Another big warning – don't induce vomiting but instead get to your nearest hospital emergency department.